

**METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING SECURE TWO-PARTY PUBLIC  
KEY CRYPTOSYSTEM**

**Abstract**

Techniques for an efficient and provably secure protocol by which two parties, each  
5 holding a share of a Cramer-Shoup private key, can jointly decrypt a ciphertext, but such that  
neither party can decrypt a ciphertext alone. In an illustrative embodiment, the secure protocol  
may use homomorphic encryptions of partial Cramer-Shoup decryption subcomputations, and  
three-move  $\Sigma$ -protocols for proving consistency.